

Lincoln, Nebraska  
August 14, 2025

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska met on August 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, in a publicly convened session, and by remote electronic means pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advanced publicized notice, a copy of which is attached to the minutes of this meeting as Attachment 1 (page 43).

In compliance with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411, printed notice of this meeting was sent to each member of the Board and was posted in the first-floor lobby of Varner Hall. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to the Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World-Herald, The Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, and the Lincoln office of the Associated Press on August 7, 2025.

Regents present:

Timothy Clare (joined via videoconference)  
Paul Kenney, Chair  
Elizabeth O'Connor  
Robert Schafer  
Jim Scheer, Vice Chair  
Jack Stark  
Barbara Weitz  
Kathy Wilmot  
Sam Schroeder, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Libby Wilkins, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Brock Calamari, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Drew Leisy, University of Nebraska at Omaha

University officials present:

Jeffrey P. Gold, President  
David Jackson, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost  
Katie Hoffman, Corporation Secretary  
Neil Schnoor, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Rodney D. Bennett, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Dele H. Davies, Interim Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Joanne Li, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Tiffany Heng-Moss, Interim Vice President, NU; Harlan Vice Chancellor, IANR Office of Vice Pres/Vice Chancellor  
Anne Barnes, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Bren Chambers, Interim Vice President and General Counsel  
Chris Kratochvil, Vice President for External Relations

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

The Board convened at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is indicated above.

Chair Kenney announced the location of the Open Meetings Act in the Boardroom.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON June 19, 2025

Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Calamari to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the meeting on June 19, 2025.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy. Voting Aye: Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare. Motion carried.

### IV. PRESENTATIONS

President Jeffrey P. Gold introduced to the public the 2025 President's Excellence Award winners as follows:

- **Outstanding Research and Creative Activity Award:**
  - o *Timothy Schaffert, M.F.A., Department of English, UNL*
  - o *Jay Storz, Ph.D., School of Biological Sciences, UNL*
- **Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award:**
  - o *Betsy Becker, PT, DPT, Ph.D., Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences – Physical Therapy, UNMC*
  - o *Renee McFee, D.V.M., Ph.D., School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UNL*
- **Innovation, Development, and Engagement Award:**
  - o *Gina Ligon, Ph.D., College of Business Administration, National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology and Education Center, UNO*
  - o *Károly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D., Munroe-Meyer Institute, UNMC*
- **Faculty IP Innovation and Commercialization Award:**
  - o *Thanh Nguyen, Ph.D., MSN, FNP-C, Department of Emergency Medicine, UNMC*
- **Innovations in Student Success Award:**
  - o *Goodrich Scholarship Program, UNO*
- **University-wide Departmental Teaching Award:**
  - o *Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders, UNL*

### V. KUDOS

**Regent Schroeder presented a KUDOS award to Suzanne Exstrom**, Senior Academic Advisor for Advising & Career Development at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

**Regent Wilkins presented a KUDOS award to Joe Brownell**, Executive Director of the Military and Veteran Success Center (MVSC) and Military Relations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Regent Calamari presented a KUDOS award to Jessi Delaney**, Clinical Research Oncology Nurse in the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

**Regent Leisy presented a KUDOS award to Sierra Roseby**, Director of the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

**VI. RESOLUTIONS**  
None

**VII. HEARINGS**  
None

**VIII. PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

President Gold shared an update on the University, including recognizing the President’s Excellence award winners and their families and the recent success in CAR T-cell therapy for Multiple Sclerosis that the team at UNMC recently enjoyed. He honored Omaha leader and philanthropist Carl Mammel, the inaugural winner of the Ruth and Bill Scott Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Philanthropy, recognizing his lifetime contributions to the University. He also honored the life of Dr. Phil Smith, a former professor at UNMC who left a lasting legacy for his work at the University.

He shared with the public that the University was proud to recently host the US Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, as well as members of Nebraska’s congressional delegation at the Eastern Nebraska Research, Extension and Education Center at Mead. He also celebrated Husker athletes having achieved the highest combined GPA ever, 11 All Americans and ranking 21<sup>st</sup> nationally in the Directors Cup, feats which all occurred in the 2024-25 school year. He shared a video from his visits across the state, where he traveled over 1500 miles and met with more than 500 students, faculty, alumni, staff, donors, business leaders and community members at 21 stops in 13 communities. He finished his remarks by discussing the current budget situation at UNL, including the proposed cuts that will be made in the 2025-26 academic year.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Sunil Hingorani addressed the Board regarding issues at PCCE.

**X. UNIVERSITY CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Stark to approve all Consent items.

**A. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

X-A-1 President’s Personnel Recommendations, Addendum X-A-1

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy, Calamari. Voting Aye: O’Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney. Motion carried.

**XI. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

**A. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Motion Moved by Wilmot, seconded by Schroeder to approve items XI-A-1 and XI – A- 2.

- XI-A-1 Approve the establishment of a Science 7-12 Teaching Endorsement for the Bachelor of Science in Education degree to be administered by the Department of Physics and Astronomy in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- XI-A-2 Approve the establishment of the Master of Arts in Education in Health Education administered by the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences in the College of Education at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Leisy, Calamari, Wilkins. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Schroeder and seconded by Weitz to approve items XI-A-3, XI-A-4 and XI-A-5
- XI-A-3 Approve the elimination of the Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Economics administered by the Department of Agricultural Economics in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- XI-A-4 Proposal to eliminate the Master of Science in Environmental Engineering and rename the MS and PhD degrees in Civil Engineering to Civil and Environmental Engineering administered by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- XI-A-5 Approve the establishment of a PhD degree in Computer Engineering to be administered by the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the School of Computing in the College of Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Leisy, Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Wilmot, seconded by Wilkins to approve item XI-A-6.
- XI-A-6 Approve the establishment of a dual track Master of Science degree in Artificial Intelligence, one track administered by the Department of Computer Science in the College of Information Science and Technology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), and one track administered by the School of Computing in the College of Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Weitz, seconded by Calamari to approve item XI-A-7.
- XI-A-7 Approve the elimination of the Certificate in Perioperative Nursing administered by the College of Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.
- Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy, Calamari. Voting Aye: Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark. Motion carried.

- Motion Moved by Wilmot, seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-A-8, XI-A-9 and XI-A-10.
- XI-A-8 Approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art and Art History degree offered by the School of Arts in the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
- XI-A-9 Approve the elimination of the Master of Arts in Economics offered by the Department of Economics in the College of Business Administration at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
- XI-A-10 Approve the establishment of the Center for Competencies, Skills, and Workforce Development (CCSW) administered by the Division of Innovative & Learning-Centric Initiatives at the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Leisy, Calamari, Wilkins. Voting Aye: Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz. Motion carried.

#### **B. BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Stark to approve item XI-B-1
- XI-B-1 Approve University System Facilities Bonds and Related Financing Matters.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Leisy, Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder. Voting Aye: Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Calamari and seconded by Wilkins to approve item XI-B-2.
- XI-B-2 Approve Commercial Paper Notes Program and Authorize Issuance of Commercial Paper Notes.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy. Voting Aye: Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare. Motion carried.

#### **C. EXECUTIVE**

- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-C-1.
- XI-C-1 Approve updates to the Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska Chapters IV – VI.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy, Calamari. Voting Aye: O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Leisy and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-C-2.
- XI-C-2 Approve filing an application with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to request and use state grant funds under the Nebraska Transformational Projects Act for the unanimously approved Project Health program statement.

- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Leisy, Calamari, Wilkins. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Schafer and seconded by Wilmot that the Board go into closed session as authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska for the protection of the public interest, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of persons who have not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to the following subjects:
- Personnel Matters
  - Litigation Update
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Leisy, Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer. Motion carried.
- The Board went into closed session at 10:47 a.m.  
The Board reconvened the open meeting at 11:53 a.m.
- Motion Moved by O'Connor and seconded by Leisy to approve item XI-C-3.
- XI-C-3 Approve Performance-Based Merit Pay to President Gold for FY2024-25
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Calamari, Wilkins, Schroeder, Leisy. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer. Voting Nay: Scheer, Wilmot. Motion carried.

#### **D. REPORTS**

- XI-D-1 Report on proposal to establish an expedited Graduate Certificate in Mathematics, administered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK).
- XI-D-2 Report on proposal to rename the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre to the BFA in Entertainment Design and Production, administered by the Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film in the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).
- XI-D-3 Report on proposal to rename the Bachelor of Science in General Science to the Bachelor of Science in Physical and Natural Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).
- XI-D-4 Report on proposal to rename the Information Assurance Graduate Certificate to the Information Security Management Graduate Certificate offered by the Department of Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis in the College of Information Science & Technology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).
- XI-D-5 Report on naming of Rooms in the Health Science Education Center II (HSEC) Building and the Calvin T. Ryan Library at UNK.
- XI-D-6 Report on naming of the central outdoor courtyard of Architectural Hall at UNL.

- XI-D-7            Report of Bids and Contracts.
- XI-D-8            Report of Gifts, Grants, Contracts and Bequests University of Nebraska.
- XI-D-9            President’s FY2024-25 Year in Review.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Kenney at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Katie Hoffman  
Corporation Secretary

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Paul Kenney  
Chair of the Board



## NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska will meet in a publicly convened session on Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, and by remote electronic means pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411. Internet stream is available at <https://nebraska.edu>.

An agenda of subjects to be considered at said meeting, kept on a continually current basis is available for inspection in the Office of the Corporation Secretary of the Board of Regents at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska and at <https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-minutes>.

Any member of the public wishing to speak via remote participation during the Public Comment portion of the meeting must contact the Office of the Corporation Secretary no less than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting. The public may so contact the Office of the Corporation Secretary by leaving a voice mail message with his/her name and phone number at which he/she can be reached at 402-472-3906 or by e-mailing the same information to [corpsec@nebraska.edu](mailto:corpsec@nebraska.edu). Upon receipt of such notice, the Office of the Corporation Secretary will provide instruction on remote participation in this public meeting.

A copy of this notice will be delivered to the Lincoln Journal Star, the Omaha World-Herald, The Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, the Lincoln office of the Associated Press, members of the Board of Regents, and the President's Council of the University of Nebraska System.

Dated: August 7, 2025

Katie Hoffman, Corporation Secretary  
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska

**UNIVERSITY OF**  
**Nebraska**  
System

Office of the Corporation Secretary  
Varner Hall | 3835 Holdrege Street | Lincoln, NE 68583-0745 | 402.472.3906  
[nebraska.edu](https://nebraska.edu)